Kashmiri Militants hiding in POK

4046. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV RAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that '20 thousand Kashmiri militants hiding in Pak-Kashmir' as reported in the Assam Tribune dated 7-6-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) It is not possible to State the precise number of such persons, although the Security forces are maintaining enhanced surveillance to thwart the continued attempts at infiltration of terrorists trained and supported by Pakistan, with sanctuaries all along the International Border and LOC, including POK.

Fire incidents in Delhi

4047. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many fire accidents took place in Jhuggi-Jhopri Clusters in the Union Territory of Delhi during the period 1st January, 1991 to 15th July, 1993;

(b) how many lives were lost in those incidents and what was the estimated loss due to damage to property;

(c) whether any enquiries were conducted to determine the causes of the fire incidents; if so, what were the results of those enquiries; and

(d) what measures have been taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) According to the Delhi Administration 436 fire accidents in Jhuggi-Jhopri Clusters were reported to the Delhi Fire Service during the period from 1st January to 15th July, 1993.

(b) In these fire incidents, 58 persons lost their lives and the estimated loss of property was Rs. 2.17 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) (i) For creating awareness amongst the residents of Jhuggi-Jhopri colonies with regard to fire safety, the Delhi Fire Service has distributed pamphlets containing fire preventive instructions.

(ii) The Delhi Fire Service arranged demonstration regarding fire safety measures at 5 different JJ clusters during the Fire Service Week held from 14th to 20th April, 93 in the Union Territory of Delhi.

Demand for a separate State called Uttaranchal

4048. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the demand of a separate State called the Uttaranchal; and

(b) when a new legislation is proposed to be brought to meet the aspirations of the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) After a preliminary examination of the proposal received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the State Government requested to furnish information about the financial profile of the eight hill districts concerned. The State Government, however, expressed their inability to provide the same. The State Government has been informed that the matter cannot be considered further until the requisite information is supplied.

(b) There is no such proposal and no time limit can be indicated in this regard.

Number of People intruded from Pakistan

4049. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times people from Pakistan intruded in the Indian territory of Kashmir valley;

(b) the number of people apprehended and pushed back each time, also number of persons injured or dead in such intrusions;

(c) whether Government are considering any steps of permanent nature to check such intrusions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Illegal Collection of Money for Parking Vehicles in Delhi

4050. SHRI J. S. RAJU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of illegal collection of money for parking vehicles in different parts of the capital, particularly in connaught place area; and

(b) what action has been taken by Government to save people from getting cheated this way?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Following a complaint that certain persons were charging parking fees and issuing fake/bogus parking slips, a case u/s 419/420/468/471/34 I.P.C. was registered at P. S. Tilak Marg on 13 July, 93 and six persons have been arrested.

Proxy War by Pakistan in J & K

4051. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has recently escalated its "proxy war" in J & K and adopted what is known as "Afghanistan Model" and also introduced more lethal and sophisticated weapons like 12.7 mm heavy machine guns and SVD Dragnov Sniper rifles; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to counter the increasing tempo of the "proxy war" and prevent it from becoming cost prohibitive for India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) It is a fact that Pakistan has been supporting large scale terrorism in the State of Jammu & Kashmir, and continues to try and infiltrate trained militants and sophisticated and heavy weaponry, such as sniper rifles (including SVD Dragnov rifles) mortars and heavy machine guns, etc. Vigil has been stepped up both on the LOC/border and in the interior areas. Steps have also been taken to bring in greater coordination and integration in the operations of the Security Forces with a view to optimising the effort and maximising the results.

Vulnerability of the Srinagar—Jammu Highway

4052. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Srinagar—Jammu Highway, which is the only effective link between the summer and winter capitals of the State, has recently become vulnerable;

(b) the number of times para-military convoys and other vehicles have been attacked/ambushed during the period 1st April, 1993 to 15th July, 1993; and

(c) what special steps are being taken by Government to make travel on this road safe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) As per information made available by the State Government, ten attacks on the security forces which include explosions/random firing/cross firing, have taken place on the National Highway between Jammu and Srinagar during this period. Being a vital link, arrangements for security along the National Highway between Jammu and Srinagar are being continuously reviewed and monitored.

Increasing Employment Opportunity in J & K

4053. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently taken a number of decision to revive industry and increase employment opportunity in J & K; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the decisions and their financial implications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Government is keen to put an end to militancy and restore normalcy in the State at the earliest. In order to bring the misguided youth into the mainstream, efforts are being made to create more employment opportunities for them. Discussions were recently held with Central Govt. Ministries/Departments with a view to opening up employment opportunities in various Central Organisations, both in the State and in other parts of the country. Discussions have also been held in Delhi and Srinagar with various Central and State Govt. officials and banks, etc. with a view to removing bottlenecks and stepping up the progress of developmental works in various sec-